

## **THERAPEUTIC METHODS OF REDUCING CHOLESTEROL ACCUMULATION**

### **ABSTRACT**

Methods of reducing the cholesterol accumulation in a subject, including methods of reducing cholesterol synthesis and methods of increasing cholesterol degradation. Cholesterol synthesis is inhibited by administering a compound capable of increasing 27-hydroxy-7-dehydrocholesterol and/or 27-hydroxy-8-dehydrocholesterol levels, wherein an increase in 27-hydroxy-7-dehydrocholesterol and/or 27-hydroxy-8-dehydrocholesterol levels results in an inhibition of cholesterol synthesis. Cholesterol degradation is increased by increasing the level of 7 $\alpha$ -hydroxylase in extrahepatic tissue and cells.